

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 2-8-07
HB 398

February 7, 2007

Mr. Chairman and Committee members;

I am Louie Bouma from Lincoln, Montana.

I want to Thank you committee members for the opportunity to testify before you in support of House Bill #398.

For 2006 there were 997 male or either sex permits issued for moose, sheep, goat and bison. There were 59,998 applications for these permits. That would mean that it will take 60.16 years for this applicant pool to have received a permit. I also have these numbers for each individual species which range from 45 to 136 years. See your attached sheet.

As the demand increases for these sought after permits the time has come that not everyone is going to receive one in his lifetime. It is not right that anybody be allowed more than one until everyone has had one. The current seven year waiting period or the current preference point program does not eliminate anyone from receiving multiple permits. This is a fairness issue more than anything else.

This is not something new for Montana. Montana currently has this once in a lifetime restrictions for Grizzly bears. Many of our Western States have similar restrictions in effect

Idaho: Mountain goat and California Bighorn once in a lifetime.

Washington: Moose, Sheep and Mountain goat once in a lifetime.

Oregon: Bighorn sheep once in a lifetime.

Utah: Moose, Desert sheep, Bighorn sheep, Bison, and Mountain goat once in a lifetime.

Colorado: Desert sheep once in a lifetime.

Committee members Thanks again for taking the time to hear me and I hope you support this bill.

Thank you.

Bighorn sheep 20349 applicants for 149 ram or either sex permits 136.57 years

Moose 21600 applicants for 476 permits 45.38 years

Mountain goat 11821 applicants for 293 permits 40.34 years

Bison 6210 applicants for 79 permits 78.61 years

***This information was given to me by Special Licensing department of the Fish Wildlife and Parks.**